



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## October 2023 Newsletter

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### Upcoming IRC Meetings and Events:

**November 10:** EmComm panel discussion (at Salvation Army EDS)

**December 8:** Annual Holiday celebration and pitch-in (at Salvation Army EDS)

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### Highlights from the October Meeting:

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Club Vice-President, Dave Miller, K9RTT. Dave started self-introductions. There were 25 in attendance. Dave announced that club elections would be held in November. If anyone has any interest in serving in any office or on the board of the club, send an email to [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org).

There were no new hams in attendance, although Rachel Elliott announced that she was testing tomorrow, and would hopefully be a new ham soon. *[She succeeded and is now KD9ZBJ.]*

In announcements, the Bedford Hamfest *[on 10/14]* was announced. Jeff Hammer, N9NIC, talked about next month's meeting that he is organizing. The meeting will be focused on public service opportunities. The meeting will feature representatives and information from several local groups, such as ARES, RACES, SATERN, and more. Jay, W9TC, announced that the W9IMS club was going to be having their annual "card party" on November 4 at the Salvation Army EDS Facility. Steve, K9MD, reminded those present that a partial solar eclipse would occur on October 14.

Next, Dave introduced tonight's speaker, Dave Snapp, KB2IAC. Dave lives in Brownsburg, and has been an airline pilot since the 80's. He now flies with United Airlines, and is currently a captain on Boeing 777 planes. Dave flies mostly overseas routes. W9NIO - SK was Dave's first introduction to the hobby when he was 14. Dave didn't get licensed then. In 1989 he got his Novice license, then upgraded to General in 1990. Dave said that today most airline communications take place via Satellite, but HF radio is still a backup. The HF capabilities on board the 777 are basically from 2 MHz to 30 MHz, Upper Side Band only. Knowing his audience, Dave had lots of interesting slides and videos demonstrating the communication systems of a 777. He even had a recording of a contact he made with a POTA station from the plane. There were several good questions from the floor.

After Dave's presentation, Don Smith, N9BGW, won the door prize drawing for a \$25 DX Engineering gift certificate.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm

## Ham Radio News:

### ONE OF OUR HATS IN UKRAINE!



*The following was received from Dave Rogers, KB9YYM:*

“A good correspondence friend, Volodymyr Gurtovy, US7IGN [pictured to the right] has one of our hats in Kiev, he said it is his favorite hat! I met him after reading his book, War Diaries, [available [here](#)] which he started when the Ruscists invaded Ukraine. He is strictly CW these days, so we have never had a SSB QSO, just WhatsAp and email. He is an attorney, he used to have a big house and 2 cars in eastern Ukraine. After Putin sent his hillbillies in to stir up problems in 2014 he moved his family to Kiev and now has not much more than personal belongings, his radios and bicycle. He lives in an apartment in Kiev, and his wife and 2 children are living in Poland. If you have not read War Diaries, I highly recommend it, it is really eye opening to read first hand the trials and tribulations they faced in those

early days of the war. He plans to write a sequel when the war is over.

My wife is Latvian, we go to Latvia about every other year, he has invited us to Kiev the next time we go, if the war is over and Ukraine still exists. I think about his safety and

this war every day, we have daily contact. His wife listens to radio when they used to lose cell service for him to send his call sign via CW at pre-determined hours so she knew he was still alive.”

## **NEXT W9JP CLUP POTA EVENT SCHEDULED**

The next Indianapolis Radio Club W9JP POTA (Parks on the Air) operating event has been scheduled for Saturday, November 11, in the Fort Harrison State Park. We will once again plan on starting around 4:00 pm. Also, through the generosity of Ellen and Gordon Brock, KD9RUD and KD9RUE, we won't have to worry about getting too cold during our “cold weather season” activations. They have volunteered their 12 person “pop-up, instant tent” enclosure. At approximately 10' x 18', there should be plenty of room for our two HF stations and operators. Watch your email for more updates as we get closer to the 11th.

## **LOCAL TECHNICIAN CLASSES COMING UP**

Technician Classes will be held on October 28th and November 11th at IU West Hospital, (Ronald Reagan Parkway & West 10th Street, north of Avon) in the Terrace classroom. The Terrace classroom is located on the bottom level of the building attached to the hospital which is called the professional office center (POC 1). On Saturday class members can enter the hospital's main entrance, NOT the Professional Office Center 1 entrance, (as it is usually locked on the weekends), go down the stairway by the welcome desk, turn to the right at the bottom of the stairs then turn right at the end of the hallway. The Terrace classroom is just down that hallway on the left side. On the 28th, the class will run from 9:00 am to approximately 3:30 pm with a lunch break. On November 11th, the class will run from 9:00 am to noon, with testing following a lunch break. Both the classes and the test are free. The only cost involved is the \$35 license fee payable to the FCC.

Contact Bruce Enz at [bruceenz@gmail.com](mailto:bruceenz@gmail.com) or (317) 201-8299 for more info and to get registered.

## **ARRL URGING COMMENT TO FCC ON 60 METER BAND**

The ARRL is asking that all radio amateurs urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to continue the existing use of the 60-meter band. A public comment

period is open until October 30, 2023. ARRL encourages expressions of support to the FCC for the current 100 W ERP power limit (instead of reducing the power limit to 15 W EIRP) and continuing secondary access to the current channels.

To submit a filing of your comments for the FCC's consideration in the rulemaking process, go to the FCC web page for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking's (NPRM) Docket Number 23-120 at, <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/docket-detail/23-120>.

If you wish to directly enter your comments, select the button labeled SUBMIT AN EXPRESS FILING at, <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/express?proceeding5d=23-120> .

If you are uploading a document that contains your comments, select SUBMIT A STANDARD FILING at, <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/standard?proceeding5d=23-120> .

When submitting your comments, be sure the correct proceeding's docket number, 23-120, is included on the form. Your name and comments will be entered into the official public record of the proceedings and will be viewable by anyone who visits the docket web page.

While radio amateurs are encouraged to include any comments they would like in their submissions, they're especially encouraged to draw upon their personal experiences using the 60-meter band for public service purposes and for its location between the amateur 80- and 40-meter bands, which is critical to ensuring signal propagation to certain geographic areas during variations in time and the solar cycle.

Some of the main points to comment on for this NPRM are:

- \* Urging the FCC to keep the four existing channels allocated to amateur radio on a secondary basis.

- \* Urging the FCC to keep the 100 W power limit for the four existing channels and the new 15 kHz subband.

For the full story from ARRL, point your browser to <https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-urges-comments-to-fcc-on-60-meter-band>

## **ON-LINE GENERAL CLASSES STARTING SOON**

A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio General Class Licensing course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, Nov 2, and will run through Thursday, January 11. The three-hour sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time. These are the classes that have been held for years sponsored by the National Electronics Museum. Prerequisite is to have or be studying for the Technician Class License. Please publicize this with anyone you know that you think would be interested. Those wishing to sign up should email Roland Anders, K3RA, at [roland.anders@comcast.net](mailto:roland.anders@comcast.net).

## **EMCOMM PRESENTATION AT NOVEMBER IRC MEETING**

Jeff Hammer, N9NIC, is planning an extensive Emergency Communications presentation for the November Indianapolis Radio Club meeting, coming up on Friday, November 10th at the Salvation Army EDS Facility, 4020 Georgetown Road, Indianapolis, 46254.

Jeff currently has ARES, RACES, LDS ERC, and SATERN confirmed, with CERT, MARS, and REACT possibly participating as well. The participating groups will have table-top displays and information available by 7:00 pm for meeting attendees. The meeting will start with a short radio club business meeting at 7:30 pm, followed by short presentations by each of the groups. Following their presentations, an open panel discussion will entertain questions from those present.

## **ARRL RELEASES POTA BOOK**

The ARRL has a new book to help radio amateurs enjoy one of the fastest growing communities within the hobby. Participants in Parks on the Air® (POTA) have built one of the most vibrant on-air communities in contemporary ham radio. Park hunters comb the airwaves for activators operating from the lawns of sprawling public mansions, stoops at urban historic sites, forest glades, rocky mountaintops, seaside beaches, and just about any state or federal park in the country — and many entities abroad.

The Parks on the Air Book gives you a look at the setups and processes of 14 operators from a variety of skill levels and backgrounds and offers advice and motivation for taking your radio out to a park. Each chapter includes a detailed gear list so you can see exactly what your fellow operators are using, whether they're leaders of the pack like Kerri Wright, KB3WAV, and Clint Spratt, W9AV, or folks just getting started with Parks on the

Air. Setups cover satellite operating, QRP, urban backpack portable, activating tailgate-style, wire antennas for POTA, and more.

Go to <http://www.arrl.org/news/a-pota-book-for-park-activators-and-hunters> for all the info.

## **ANNA GOMEZ CONFIRMED TO FCC**

The US Senate confirmed Anna Gomez as the fifth commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission on September 7, 2023. Gomez thanked President Biden for the nomination and the Senate for her confirmation.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve," she said in a statement on her LinkedIn page.

Gomez is an attorney with decades of experience in domestic and international communications law and policy. She served for 12 years in various positions at the FCC, including Deputy Chief of the International Bureau and Senior Legal Advisor. She most recently served as a Senior Advisor for International Information and Communications Policy in the State Department's Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy, where she has been leading US preparations for the month-long World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) that will commence on November 20 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Steve Lang will replace Gomez as head of the US delegation to WRC-2023. Lang is a longtime state department official serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Information and Communications Policy. Lang has been working closely with Gomez on US WRC-2023 delegation preparations.

## **UPCOMING CENTRAL INDIANA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)**

Gas City IN 46933-1155

Sponsor: GCARC

Date: Oct 24 2023

Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: Mitchell D. Miller

(765) 661-5893

Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: EMA Building  
3921 S Garthwaite Rd  
Pre-register only, contact ahead  
Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Website: <http://www.grantarc.org/>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337  
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc  
Date: Nov 04 2023  
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: William F. Wootton  
(812) 876-8689  
Email: [wfwootton@gmail.com](mailto:wfwootton@gmail.com)  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19  
2420 E 3rd St  
Register at 11:30am  
Testing at 12 NOON  
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Sponsor: Hancock County ARC  
Date: Nov 04 2023  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: David Keiser  
(317) 440-8486  
Email: [kc9urp@hrtc.net](mailto:kc9urp@hrtc.net)  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Hancock EMA EOC  
640 South Franklin St  
Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Website: <https://w9atg.org/ve-testing2/>

Avon IN 46123-7085  
Sponsor: Central Indiana Hams  
Date: Nov 11 2023  
Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Frank E. Merrill  
(317) 590-4810  
Email: fmerrill@inwg.cap.gov  
VEC: LAUREL VEC  
Location: IU West Hospital  
1111 Ronald Reagan Pkwy  
Avon IN 46123-7085

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169  
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP  
Date: Nov 11 2023  
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: James K. Rinehart  
(317) 721-1458  
Email: testing@indyradioclub.org  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility  
4020 Georgetown Rd  
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Center Point IN 47840-8381  
Sponsor: Clay County Auxcom  
Date: Nov 13 2023  
Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Paul G. Adams  
(812) 230-1218  
Email: adamspg2631@gmail.com  
VEC: LAUREL VEC  
Location: Center Point Church  
208 S Cherry St  
Center Point IN 47840-8381

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club  
Date: Nov 21 2023  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)



Contact: Stephen M. Riley  
(765) 425-4627  
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Madison County EMA EOC  
200 N Delaware St  
Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Sponsor: GCARC  
Date: Nov 28 2023  
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Mitchell D. Miller  
(765) 661-5893  
Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: EMA Building  
3921 S Garthwaite Rd  
Pre-register only, contact ahead  
Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Website: <http://www.grantarc.org/>

## **FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER**

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at [http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews\\_indyradioclub.org](http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org).

## **SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS**

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## **Signals from the Past:**

### **From the September-October 1953, Ama-Chewer:**

Those of us who own cars and want call-letters for our license plates for the next three years should file immediately in order that there will be no delay in getting the plates and having them attached to the car by the legal deadline next year. Details, if you don't have

them, can be obtained from any officer of the club, so come on out to club meetings or contact an officer by telephone or radio.

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### **Upcoming Area Radio Events:**

- Shelbyville Hamfest: October 21 at Shelby County Fairgrounds. For more info, go to <https://brvars.com/2023/10/shelbyville-tailgate-2023/>
- Brown County Hamfest: October 28 at 235 School House Lane, Nashville. Follow [this link](#) for more info.

### **2023 Officers:**

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [president@indyradioclub.org](mailto:president@indyradioclub.org)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [vp@indyradioclub.org](mailto:vp@indyradioclub.org)
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [secretary@indyradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org](mailto:w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org)

**To Pay Dues or Donate to the club, go to**  
[\*\*https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment\*\*](https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment)

**Or Scan this QR Code with your smartphone:**

